

SATURDAY GAZETTE, MAY 16

Saturday Gazette.

Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.

W. P. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.

CHAS. M. DAVIS, Associate Editor.

Our PRINCIPAL OFFICE is next door to the Post Office in Bloomfield.

The Saturday Gazette.

BLOOMFIELD AND MONTCLAIR.

An independent weekly journal of LITERATURE, EDUCATION, POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS and LOCAL INTERESTS.

All public and local questions, including political and social, sanitary and reformatory, educational and industrial topics will be clearly presented and fully and fairly discussed.

It is intended and expected to make it not only readable and interesting to the general reader, but of special value to citizens of the county and of real importance to every resident of Bloomfield, Montclair and Caldwell.

Nothing will be admitted to its columns that is unworthy of cordial welcome to every family circle.

Settled Clergymen in the county and all Public School Teachers in the county will receive the paper gratuitously by sending their address.

It should prove a valuable medium for advertisers. Our weekly circulation extends to every part of Essex county, and considerably elsewhere. Subscriptions and advertisements will be received in Montclair, by E. Madison; in Caldwell, by M. Harrison; in Verona, by W. L. Scott; in Newark, by W. H. Winslow; 445 Broad street, and at our office in Bloomfield, by mail to Wm. P. Lyon, Editor, and Proprietor, Bloomfield, N. J.

THE ASSESSOR.

The attempt in a certain quarter to ridicule the Gazette for its vigorous advocacy of equality of taxation, will not succeed. Whoever the writer may be he would have shown a better appreciation of the grievance complained of, and a heart more in sympathy with the insupportable burdens which heavy taxation inflicts on the majority of the community, by supporting our well-meaning and earnest endeavors to effect a needed and just reform.

An intelligent people will not be misled by scurrilous argument, nor be put off with flippant attempts at witicism when vital interests are under consideration.

The rich, that is, those who have an income—or that which may be made to yield an income, in excess of their necessary expenses, can of course be indifferent to the amount of their tax bills, but most citizens, for some time past, have found the balance every year on the other side, showing that with the increased expensiveness of living, the burdens of taxation, and the curtailment of profits, their capital itself is rapidly wasting away.

But all true men and all worthy citizens will seek no exemption from their proper share of the public burdens. They only ask, and have they not a right to demand that the burdens which are common to all shall be equal for all. That the public tax shall be proportioned, in each case to the interest each one has to be protected, that is to the value of his property. This has been our invariable and well understood position on this question. And we humbly conceive that it is our duty, as public journalists, to ventilate the subject and stand by the people in pressing for their equal rights.

And now it is asked, what will be done about it? We answer that according to our understanding of the matter, it rests mainly with the Assessor. It is in his power, and it is his duty to appraise the properties on a just and equitable principle that shall apply to all alike, which will remove all just cause of complaint or grievance. The basic hitherto adopted will not do; it will not be satisfactory, and we do not believe it will be submitted to.

The election of the Assessor in Montclair we understand turned upon this very question. The new Assessor there, is pledged to rectify the inequalities of taxation. The Assessor in Bloomfield and in every other town can do it as well. It will impose upon him some extra labor probably, and will compel him to break loose from the trammels of past customs which were suited to the primitive conditions of former years, but should not be tolerated any longer.

We have perfect confidence in the integrity of our Bloomfield Assessor, and will therefore most cheerfully countenance and aid his endeavors to effect the needed reform.

What shall be the principle of valuation? Can any better one be named than that which he already adopts, in certain cases to wit, what the property would be expected to bring at auction?

Then why not apply this to every case to the many acres, or the farm land, as to the village houses and lots?

It may be said this would produce a large aggregate sum for our town than its rightful proportion with other towns of the county. The sum of the valuations last year was \$3,131,000. It should probably be about the same this year. If the Assessor's first appraisal should amount to a larger sum, say, for instance, \$6,362,000 he will of course reduce the valuations of all properties in that case 50 per cent—all alike. Who can dispute the fairness of this principle and plan? The rich man and the poor man would both be taxed on the same basis and all would acknowledge the justice of the uniform principle which included all, and served all alike. Would it not be wisdom for the Assessor to express his intention in this matter? Our columns are open to him, or, if he will inform us of his purpose we will be glad to let it clearly to the public.

Other important subjects demand our interest and we should be happy to be able to speak of them.

To assure the public that justice and equity will be accorded to them in the coming assessment.

STATE ASSOCIATIONS.

The seventh Annual Convention of the Young Men's CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION of New Jersey will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Orange, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 20th. and 21st. of May.

ORGANIZATION ON WEDNESDAY AT 7:15 P. M. Addresses of welcome, and responses. Discussion of Topic—"Relation of the Association to the Church."

ON THURSDAY Prayer Meeting at 8:30 A. M. followed by Reports from Associations, and a discussion of topic—"How shall we increase the number who work?"

After dinner, Prayer Meeting at 3 P. M. followed by report of Executive Committee, and by discussion of topic—"The Perils of Young Men, from Pernicious Literature, from Social and Business Customs, from Intemperance."

Miscellaneous business.

In the evening Praise Meeting at 7:30 followed by discussion of topic—"The Need of Personal Religious Work and the Influence of Christian Homes upon Young Men."

These meetings will undoubtedly be of great interest and importance. We trust that our towns will be well and largely represented.

IMPROVEMENTS This Spring are in the way of repairs rather than in new buildings. We notice some buildings going up here and there in these villages, and a number of additions or other home improvements, in their lawns, grading, planting evergreens and otherwise ornamenting.

GARDENS are generally planted late, but as the season has been backward they will mature just as early and probably earlier for all that.

GEN. HOWARD.—We are happy to record the triumphant vindication of the good and true General O. O. Howard as the result of the thorough investigation of the Court of Inquiry appointed by the Government for the special purpose.

PEDERSONIAN.—E. P. Weston, may be considered the champion walker of the world. Inside of 24 hours he accomplished the extraordinary feat of 115 miles on Monday last.

ARKANSAS.—The gubernatorial imbroglio at Little Rock has developed and changed from a ridiculous farce, to an animating comedy, and now to a serious, exciting and extensive tragedy, involving the paraphernalia of civil war, and the destruction of numbers of lives.

Our discreet President has manifested all the forbearance that wisdom would allow, and now sees the necessity for exercising his ultimate authority and power in the repetition of his most significant saying on another occasion—"LET US HAVE PEACE!" This utterance from him will produce its potent magnetic influence, without, we hope, the necessity of harsher severity.

BELLEVILLE.—This beautiful young city of Essex County has started out for itself. In its haste to assert its independence and be detached from *pa-tow-nal* straight jackets and surveillance, it may have committed some blunders, or indiscretions, but these will not prove serious. They will all be corrected in due time and wisdom be more valued for a little trying experience. Belleville has a pleasant situation by the gently flowing Passaic. Its citizens are enterprising and intelligent men of culture, men of wealth and men of commanding influence.

We shall take pleasure in making known its special advantages, facilities, attractions and progress in our widely circulated journal from time to time.

We hope to have a regular correspondence there and should be glad to receive overtures in that direction. Meanwhile we shall be happy to welcome to our columns articles and items, reports and notices—which may be of special interest to the residents of Belleville and their friends elsewhere.

THE SATURDAY GAZETTE.—We are happy to inform our readers and friends that the GAZETTE is constantly increasing in circulation; new subscribers come in almost every day. We are much encouraged and intent to spare no pains to make it more worthy of their support and patronage. The reading of every number shall be not only unobjectionable but also interesting and useful.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS IN NEW JERSEY.—The compulsory education movement, which has obtained some strength in New Jersey, and which it was seriously proposed to secure by legislative enactment, meets with serious opposition by the facts deduced from the report of the State Superintendent. It appears that while the entire number of children in the State of the required age—between five and eighteen years—is 279,148, there is only school accommodation for 158,404, or only 54 per cent. If every child was therefore forced to attend school, the number of the school houses would have to be doubled. Even as it is, the laws of health are violated in many localities by crowding school rooms and neglect to provide sufficient ventilation. The statistics show that the less the accommodation, the less the attendance. Plainfield furnishes school accommodation for eighty-four per cent of its children, and the attendance is in proportion; Rahway comes next, with seventy-six per cent; Paterson with sixty-two; Bridgeton with sixty-two, Millville, sixty; Perth Amboy, fifty-five; Canda, and Orange, fifty-four; Newark, thirty-eight; Elizabeth, thirty-three; Jersey City, thirty, and New Brunswick, twenty-nine.

That glorious choir of twelve well trained musical voices, in sweet harmony and complete unity, left an impression upon mind and heart equal to the most eloquent sermon. It is worth going miles to enjoy

HOME MATTERS.

BLOOMFIELD.

WEATHER CHRONICLE.

Range of Thermometer at Bloomfield Centre.

May 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

At 7 A. M. 40° 43° 45° 55° 54° 49° 45°

At Noon 51° 55° 58° 59° 58° 56° 54°

At 9 P. M. 43° 48° 54° 74° 78° 69° 66°

At 10 P. M. 40° 45° 50° 60° 55° 48° 45°

At 11 P. M. 38° 42° 48° 55° 50° 45° 42°

At 12 M. 35° 40° 45° 52° 50° 45° 42°

At 1 A. M. 32° 38° 45° 50° 48° 45° 42°

At 2 A. M. 30° 35° 42° 48° 45° 42° 40°

At 3 A. M. 28° 33° 40° 45° 42° 40° 38°

At 4 A. M. 26° 30° 35° 40° 38° 35° 33°

At 5 A. M. 24° 28° 32° 38° 35° 32° 30°

At 6 A. M. 22° 25° 28° 32° 30° 28° 26°

At 7 A. M. 20° 23° 26° 30° 28° 26° 24°

At 8 A. M. 18° 21° 24° 28° 26° 24° 22°

At 9 A. M. 16° 19° 22° 26° 24° 22° 20°

At 10 A. M. 14° 17° 20° 24° 22° 20° 18°

At 11 A. M. 12° 15° 18° 22° 20° 18° 16°

At 12 M. 10° 13° 16° 20° 18° 16° 14°

At 1 P. M. 8° 11° 14° 18° 16° 14° 12°

At 2 P. M. 6° 9° 12° 16° 14° 12° 10°

At 3 P. M. 4° 7° 10° 14° 12° 10° 8°

At 4 P. M. 2° 5° 8° 12° 10° 8° 6°

At 5 P. M. 0° 3° 6° 10° 8° 6° 4°

At 6 P. M. -2° 5° 8° 12° 10° 8° 6°

At 7 P. M. -4° 7° 10° 14° 12° 10° 8°

At 8 P. M. -6° 9° 12° 16° 14° 12° 10°

At 9 P. M. -8° 11° 14° 18° 16° 14° 12°

At 10 P. M. -10° 13° 16° 20° 18° 16° 14°

At 11 P. M. -12° 15° 18° 22° 20° 18° 16°

At 12 M. -14° 17° 20° 24° 22° 20° 18°

At 1 P. M. -16° 19° 22° 26° 24° 22° 20°

At 2 P. M. -18° 21° 24° 28° 26° 24° 22°

At 3 P. M. -20° 23° 26° 30° 28° 26° 24°

At 4 P. M. -22° 25° 28° 32° 30° 28° 26°

At 5 P. M. -24° 27° 30° 34° 32° 30° 28°

At 6 P. M. -26° 29° 32° 36° 34° 32° 30°

At 7 P. M. -28° 31° 34° 38° 36° 34° 32°

At 8 P. M. -30° 33° 36° 40° 38° 36° 34°

At 9 P. M. -32° 35° 38° 42° 40° 38° 36°

At 10 P. M. -34° 37° 40° 44° 42° 40° 38°

At 11 P. M. -36° 39° 42° 46° 44° 42° 40°

At 12 M. -38° 41° 44° 48° 46° 44° 42°

At 1 P. M. -40° 43° 46° 50° 48° 46° 44°

At 2 P. M. -42° 45° 48° 52° 50° 48° 46°

At 3 P. M. -44° 47° 50° 54° 52° 50° 48°

At 4 P. M. -46° 49° 52° 56° 54° 52° 50°

At 5 P. M. -48° 51° 54° 58° 56° 54° 52°

At 6 P. M. -50° 53° 56° 60° 58° 56° 54°

At 7 P. M. -52° 55° 58° 62° 60° 58° 56°

At 8 P. M. -54° 57° 60° 64° 62° 60° 58°

At 9 P. M. -56° 59° 62° 66° 64° 62° 60°

At 10 P. M. -58° 61° 64° 68° 66° 64° 62°

At 11 P. M. -60° 63° 66° 70° 68° 66° 64°

At 12 M. -62° 65° 68° 72° 70° 68°